

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 289
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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PEPR, KS, US
SUBJECT: KOREAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS, APRIL 5-6

REF: SEOUL 2731 (DTG 040915Z APR 78)

1. CEAUSESCU. PROMINENT FRONTPAGE COVERAGE TO BOSTON
HERALD EXCERPTS SPECULATING CEAUSESCU WILL BRING TO CARTER
MESSAGE FROM KIM IL-SUNG. ALL PRESS INCLUDED DISCUSSION
OF PREVIOUS DPRK PROPOSAL FOR CONFEDERATION SYSTEM. TONGA
ILBO CORRESPONDENT QUOTES DOS SPOKESMAN RESTON; "US
ADMINISTRATION SO FAR HAS SUPPORTED ROKG POSITION OPPOSING
THE CONFEDERATION PROPOSAL; NO CHANGE WHATSOEVER TO BASIC
US POLICY ON KOREAN PENINSULA; WE HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF
PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU CARRYING A MESSAGE FROM KIM IL-SUNG".
IN RELATED MATTER KOREAN PRESS CARRIES ASAHI SHIMBUN
ARTICLE SPECULATING NK NOT LIKELY TO ACCEPT 3-PARTY
TALKS PROPOSAL.

2. KOREAN TANK. HEADLINES OR LARGE FRONTPAGE PRESS
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TO PRESIDENT PAK'S INSPECTION OF TANK FACTORY, HEADLINED
"MASS PRODUCTION SYSTEM COMPLETED FOR PRODUCTION OF HIGHLY
EFFICIENT TANK". REPORTS NOTE ROK HAS DESIGN PLANS FOR
M48A3 AND A5 TANKS ENABLING ROK TO INDEPENDENTLY
CONSTRUCT TANKS. SUCH TANK REPORTED TO COST ONE-HALF
THE PRICE OF US-MADE M60. REPORTS CONTINUE KOREAN
TANKS HAVE PASSED "INTERNATIONAL SPECIFICATION TESTS

AND AMPHIBIOUS TESTS" AND ARE FAR MORE EFFICIENT THAN ANY NK TANK.

3. SECDEF BROWN. SEOUL SINMUN FRONTPAGE'S BROWN'S 4/5 SPEECH, IN WHICH HE REPORTEDLY SAID TROOP-WITHDRAWAL PLAN WAS MODIFIED FROM ORIGINAL CARTER PROPOSAL WHICH PLANNED WITHDRAW ALL USFK WITHIN ONE AND A-HALF YEARS. MODIFICATION RESULTED FROM STRONG SUGGESTION OF JCS.

4. PTS. MINOR COVERAGE TO WASH POST ARTICLE SAYING PTS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO ROK 4/7 AND CITING HOUSE ETHICS CMTE SOURCES SAYING NO PERJURY CHARGES CONTEMPLATED AGAINST PTS.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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